[28th July 1952

" (b) The Chief Operation Engineer(?) have sent a reply to the Association, explaining the position in regard to the requests made in the representation."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM:—" Will the Government meet the representatives of the Association to discuss the grievances and do something?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—" Some of the requests have been met, Sir."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" The question was whether the Hon. Minister would be prepared to meet the representatives of the Association and that was not answered."

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—" I have no objection to meet the representatives."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—" May I know whether the Ministry or the Secretary to Government concerned has issued a circular to the effect that as the future plans are not going to be put into effect immediately, there may be retrenchment, and has called for the names of those that could be retrenched?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—" Notice, Sir."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN:—" Does this Association cover any gazetted officers of the Electricity Department?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—" Notice, Sir."

Representations re *the death of the under-trial prisoners in Chirakkal taluk.*

* 265 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations or complaints were received by the Government regarding the death in May 1950 of under-trial prisoners, Rairu Nambiar, Kuttiappa and Gopalan of Kayaralam village of Chirakkal taluk; and

(*b*) whether the Government made any enquiry into those representations or complaints, if not, why?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—
" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—" Does the Hon. Minister know that the following three lists were entrusted to the Inspector of Police of the locality by the Secretary of the Producer-*cum*-Consumer Co-operative Society, Mullapadu:—

(1) list of persons to be shot,

(2) list of persons to be arrested and cases foisted upon, and

(3) list of persons to be followed up and kept under surveillance,

and that these three people were shot according to that list?"

28th July 1952]

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government are aware of this only that Rairu Nambiar and Kuttiappa were released on bail on 4th May 1950 and Gopalan on 8th April 1950."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN:—"Are the Government aware that the people of Chirakkal taluk, North Malabar, have lost confidence in the *bona fides* of the Government after the murder of these three peasant leaders by the Police? Is the power to murder persons at will given to the Police even now? Will the Government be prepared to constitute a non-official enquiry committee to enquire into the incident?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government are not aware of any such thing. They cannot institute an enquiry into an incident which happened some two or three years back. It may lead to unfortunate consequences."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"In view of the insistent representations that are being made by the people in this matter, I am really surprised at the answer given. May I ask the Hon. Minister to tell us when they were released on bail? What happened to those people who were released on bail? Will the Government really enquire into their cases and see whether these people have not been shot down by the Police, as has been alleged? I request the Hon. Minister to take this case at least into consideration and make enquiries." 11 a.m.

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is in respect of this case that I stated that the Government had documents to the effect that they were released on bail on 4th May 1950 and 8th April 1950."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Apart from the question of documents, does the Hon. Minister know from his other knowledge whether the men are alive or dead?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"My personal knowledge does not count here. I do not know anything about them. We have made reasonable enquiries, and I have given the answer."

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—"In view of the fact that the prisoners, who were said to be released on bail from Cannanore Central Jail on 4th May 1950, were, within three hours of their release, shot by the Police, will the Hon. Minister be kind enough to institute an enquiry?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Mere allegations, Sir."

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—"We are prepared to prove, Sir."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"I cannot take it, Sir . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order."

[28th July 1952

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Mere allegations or repetitions here will be of no use. We have done what could be done, and I have given the answer."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"May I draw the attention of the Hon. Speaker to the last question put by the hon. Member Mr. Narayana Nambiar? He said that after the prisoners were bailed out, they were shot. That was the statement he made. In the previous question the allegation was that they were not bailed out, but they were shot. The last question is that they were bailed out, and somebody shot them. And when? Some years back. The Minister has already answered the question of shooting. To ask for an enquiry as to the murder which is alleged to have happened so many years back, I submit, is very unreasonable, at any rate, in an interpellation."

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—"Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister has misquoted me, and a misapprehension has arisen. Will the Hon. Speaker be kind enough to give a chance for the particular Member who put the question to clear the position? A misunderstanding has arisen consequent upon the interpretation put by the Treasury Benches. The whole thing will be proved. (Interruption.) Sir, these prisoners, it is stated, were released on bail. But the fact is, I assert, that no relatives or friends of these prisoners ever knew that they were released. The fact is that the then Inspector—I am prepared to prove this—at the point of bayonet threatened one T. C. Govindan Nambiyar that if he did not affix his signature . . ." (Interruption.)

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Sir, is it an interpellation or a supplementary question? I submit that hon. Members may have a very good case that a certain murder was committed some years ago. They are entitled to give a complaint about it in the ordinary way. But how can Ministers answer interpellations based on such allegations without any enquiry?"

SRI P. G. KARUTHIRUMAN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the prisoners, who are alleged to have been shot dead, are still being searched for by the Police?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"When they have been released it is not the business of the Police to enquire about their whereabouts."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister was pleased to say that it was an unreasonable request for an enquiry in the course of interpellations. May I draw his attention to part (b) of the question? Part (b) of the question is,—

'(b) whether the Government made any enquiry into those representations or complaints, if not, why?'

The Hon. the Minister for Jails said that it would serve no purpose. May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister, in view of the statements made from this side of the House, whether it would not serve public interests better if the Government undertake an enquiry?"

25th July 1952]

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is no use mixing up matters. I crave the hon. the Leader of the Opposition to be more reasonable. The question was put to the Minister concerned whether he made enquiries into any representations, and the Minister has answered the question. He has given his own conclusion. Thereupon, allegations are made that there was a murder committed, and that the bailing out was an unreality and a falsehood. If any charge is involved in it, it is a charge of deliberate murder. With reference to the time and context, I say that a definite allegation should be made if an enquiry is to be made into the murder. It is not as if it is an administrative fault or error to be enquired into by the Government. Here is a case where it is alleged, according to the statements given, that one man or more men, were murdered deliberately and a false record was made that they were released on bail. Application should be made to another Department for an enquiry into the crime. If it is important and useful, I am prepared to make any reasonable enquiry. But I point out that it happened, according to the statements, two years ago, as far as I understand it. A charge of murder cannot be rushed up from the Opposition Benches in the course of an interpellation like this."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"Sir, this is an important question, and hence I rise to put another question. The question is that a definite charge is made by Members of this House and by the people outside, in the form of representations, that such and such a thing had happened, and whether the Government will enquire into the complaint. The House has received the reply from the Hon. Minister that an enquiry would not serve any purpose. Simply because the people are saying and reiterating that those prisoners had been shot dead by the Police, it is the incumbent duty of the Government to enquire into the charge to see whether the Police have done what they are alleged to have done. I request the Government over and over again that at least on this one simple issue the Government should give us an assurance that they will enquire into the incident, and, if the allegation is proved to be true, they will really take action against the Inspector of Police."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I want hon. Members who are so earnest about it to put the matter clearly in writing and give it to me. I shall see whether any enquiry is called for, and, if called for, how it should be made. Even now I am not able to understand whether it is said that their bodies were found with bullets in them, or that the men are not heard of, or that they have gone underground, or whether it is on suspicion that the charge of murder is made. Do they say that their bodies were found with lead in them, or is it stated that they are not heard about, and, therefore, they infer that those prisoners are shot dead? I want to know what exactly the allegation is."

[28th July 1952

11-10 a.m. SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—"The fact is this. The dead bodies were found . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Chief Minister said that if the hon. Member would put it in writing and give it to him, he would make an enquiry into the matter. Now, I pass on to the next question."

Relief measures for Thirumayam and Kolathur taluks.

*266 Q.—SRI R. M. PALANIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state what steps the Government have taken to relieve the famine conditions in Thirumayam and Kolathur taluks, Tiruchirappalli district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"Ninety-seven Minor Irrigation Works and 68 Rural Water Supply works are in progress in the two taluks. A sum of Rs. 3,40,550 has been disbursed as loans since 1st April 1951 in Thirumayam taluk and Rs. 2,39,410 in Kolathur taluk. Land Revenue remission on a liberal scale has been sanctioned and collection of loan instalments and cesses has been postponed. The Military Authorities have been requested to sink drinking water wells to relieve water scarcity."

Application of Shop Assistants Act to hospitals and dispensaries.

*267 Q.—SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Shops and Establishments Act, 1947, has been extended to hospitals and dispensaries?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"No, Sir. The Act does not apply to hospitals and dispensaries attached to doctors' consulting rooms as they have been permanently exempted by the Government from all the provisions of the Act."

SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO:—"In view of the fact that nurses and compounders employed in private hospitals and dispensaries are not paid their salaries regularly and reasonably, will the Government consider the desirability of extending the Act to private hospitals and dispensaries?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"Sir, the Government are not aware of any such representations being made to them. But as these are essential services, the Government, when they framed the Act, thought that they should be exempted from the operation of the Act."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI:—"Will the Government make an enquiry from the State Government of Bombay whether such an exemption has been granted in the Bombay State?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"The matter will be considered."